

September 4, 2008

Springfield, Illinois

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMISSION

The sixth meeting of the Interpreter Licensure Board was held on Thursday, September 4, 2008, at the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission Office, 1630 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois.

I. Call to Order

Paul Menkis, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m. on September 4, 2008.

Members Present:

Paul Menkis
Carole Clemons
Becki Combs

Dana Craig
Shelley Engstrom-Kestel
Teri Hedding

Karen Janssen
Janet Lambert

Members Absent:

None

Interpreters:

Sheila Chapman, CSC

Missy Kinsel, CI & CT

Public:

Juan Bernal
Debbie Siebert

Emma Danielson
Marion Dramin

IDHHC Staff Present:

John Miller, Executive Director
Tonia Bogener, Legal Counsel

II. Approval of Minutes

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved to approve the March 26, 2008 minutes as distributed. Becki Combs seconded. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Carole Clemons, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Dana Craig, Teri Hedding and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

III. Unfinished Business

a. Privilege Communications Amendment

IDHHC Legal Counsel reminded the Board in January 2009 a legislative change to the Interpreter Privilege section will need to be proposed. IDHHC Legal Counsel explained the privilege communication section regarding testifying in court hearings concerning matters pertaining to children overrides other privileges listed such as attorney/client privilege which is not the intent. Discussion followed about the perception of practitioners regarding mandatory reporting and what the Illinois School Code requires of employees of school districts. Legal Counsel advised that the mandated reporting is covered in the Abuse and Neglected Child Reporting Act and is separate from this issue.

Becki Combs moved the Interpreter Licensure Board support IDHHC's recommendation to remove section (e) of (735 ILCS 5/8-912). Teri Hedding seconded. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Carole Clemons, Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Dana Craig, Teri Hedding and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

IV. New Business

IDHHC Executive Director updated the Board regarding the agency budget status. It was reported that the budget was approved and included the initial request of a one time \$100,000 start up budget for interpreter licensure. The Interpreter Coordinator position is going through the state approval process and it is uncertain as to how long the process will take. However, IDHHC is planning to hire a contractual person in the interim which will work from the IDHHC office.

a. Rule Making Status

i. Review of First Notice Comments

Proposed rules were published in the Illinois Register and public comment was accepted for 45 days during the period from 7/7/08 – 8/21/08. The Board reviewed a summary of all public comment prior to the start of the regular meeting. Legal Counsel advised the Board that changes to the proposed rules can be made for the Second Notice period.

ii. Second Notice

Legal Counsel reviewed the Second Notice process with the Board. JCAR will hold a public meeting with the Agency and will then accept the proposed rules or will make recommendations for modification or will turn them down. The process takes up to 45 days and can be extended once by JCAR. Legal counsel must prepare the Second Notice Request which includes a response to all the comments. IDHHC may receive final approval of the rules by the end of October. The interpreter application process could then commence in November.

The Board recessed at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 10:58 a.m.

Legal Counsel suggested the Board begin with the “FORM” public comments. Discussion of the comments should include the justification for the Board’s action in response to the comment.

Janet Lambert moved that under section 1515.50 the Board recognizes that NAD 3 and ISAS Interpreting 3 or ISAS Transliterating 3 are not equivalent and will remain as written under the current categories. Karen Janssen seconded. Discussion followed that NAD tests both skills of interpreting and transliterating while the ISAS test the skills separately. Holding either an ISAS Interpreting or Transliterating 3 is not equivalent to having a NAD 3. Paul Menkis closed discussion and called for the vote. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None; Abstained: Carole Clemons. Motion carried.

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved under 1515.50(c) (Accepted Certificates – license with an advanced proficiency level) that RID Certifications are not equivalent to ISAS levels and the current rules remain the same. Teri Hedding seconded. Discussion followed regarding the various testing mechanisms and test validation. The Board reviewed previously prepared statistics regarding number of compliant interpreters in the state by various categories. All in favor: None; Opposed: Paul Menkis, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; None; Abstained: Carole Clemons. Motion failed.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved that under 1515.50(b) (Accepted Certificates – licenses with an intermediate proficiency level) move RID CI and RID CT from 1515.50(c) to under 1515.50(b). Becki Combs seconded. Discussion followed regarding the assignments under the relevant proficiency levels. Plus, if the RID CI and RID CT are moved, then should the rules be changed to 2 levels instead of the current 3. The Board further considered enforcement and the number of interpreters impacted by the level system. All in favor: Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel; Opposed: Paul Menkis, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Abstained: Carole Clemons. Motion failed.

Teri Hedding moved that ISAS Level Interpreting 5 and Transliterating 5 be moved to master proficiency level. Shelley Engstrom-Kestel seconded. All in favor: None; Opposed: Paul Menkis, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Abstained: Carole Clemons. Motion failed.

Dana Craig moved to accept Section 1515.50(d) (Accepted Certificates – licenses with a master proficiency level) as stated. Becki Combs seconded. The Board discussed the rationale for accepting this section as stated. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None; Abstained: Carole Clemons. Motion carried.

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved that section 1515.70 (Licensure Fees) regarding fees be kept as is. Dana Craig seconded. Discussion followed regarding funding and the licensure budget.

Teri Hedding moved to amend the above motion “with the exception for DI/CDI”. Shelley Engstrom-Kestel seconded. Discussion followed on the current earnings of CDI’s in comparison to what hearing interpreters earn. All in favor: Teri Hedding; Opposed: Paul Menkis, Carole Clemons, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel and Karen Janssen; Abstained: None. Motion failed.

Paul Menkis called the question – no more discussion. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: Carole Clemons; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 2:25 p.m. and reconvened at 2:42 p.m.

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel and Dana Craig moved that Section 1515.90 (Proficiency Levels) be kept as stated. Becki Combs seconded. The Board discussed at length various definitions and how to differentiate between “routine and non-routine medical appointments”. Concerns remained that a “routine” medical can become serious quickly. The Board further discussed the meaning of the word “clinical” and other terminology. Chair Paul Menkis closed discussion. Karen Janssen called for the question. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: Carole Clemons and Teri Hedding; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Becki Combs and Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved that Section 1515.80 (Continuing Education) remain as stated. Karen Janssen seconded. Dana Craig moved to amend the motion removing the distinction between Professional Studies and General Studies so long as all Continuing Education is provided by an approved sponsor. Discussion followed that public comment concerns regarding CEU’s were baseless. The proposed rules are based on same number of CE hours broke down on a yearly basis and allows carry-over of hours from year to year to provide flexibility. Plenty of opportunity exists to earn CEU’s through RID activities, IDHHC sponsorship and post-secondary courses.

All in favor of the main motion as amended: Paul Menkis, Carole Clemons, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved that section 1515.60 (Renewals) remain as stated. Dana Craig seconded. The Board discussed the public comments about this section which were deemed to be unfounded. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: Carole Clemons; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

b. Outreach and Awareness

Janet Lambert suggested the licensure board members form 2 committees to develop materials for outreach and awareness for various constituents affected by interpreter licensure.

i. Brochures

The initial focus should be for the following entities:

- Consumers (how to file a complaint)
- Interpreters
- Service providers (agencies, etc.)

ii. Interpreter Manual

A manual needs to be developed for interpreters to outline the licensure process.

iii. V-logs

IDHHC plans to have several v-logs about the different aspects interpreter licensure posted to its website for the deaf consumers. The Committee will develop the content for the v-logs.

Becki Combs and Teri Hedding moved to establish 2 outreach awareness committees; one for consumers and one for interpreters. Karen Janssen seconded. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Carole Clemons, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

The Board divided itself into 2 sub-committees as follows:

Consumer Outreach

Paul Menkis, Dana Craig, Carole Clemons, Teri Hedding

Interpreter Outreach

Becki Combs, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Karen Janssen

Prior to the next meeting, Board members were instructed to think of topics for the above materials in an outline format and submit to Janet Lambert prior to the next Board meeting.

c. IDHHC Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test

Janet Lambert moved to table discussion of the IDHHC Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test until the next meeting. Becki Combs seconded. No discussion. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Carole Clemons, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

d. Meeting Schedule FY09

The Board set the following dates for future meetings:

October 16, 2008
November 18, 2008
January 15, 2009
March 12, 2009
May 28, 2009

The schedule for the October 16, 2008 meeting is as follows:

9:00 a.m. – Noon	Committee Meetings
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	General Meeting

V. Adjournment

Teri Hedding moved to adjourn the meeting. Becki Combs seconded. Discussion: None. All in favor: Paul Menkis, Carole Clemons, Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, and Karen Janssen; Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 4:48 p.m.

(Signature on File)

Paul Menkis, Chair

Date

(Signature on File)

Karen Janssen, Secretary

Date